

1

MEDICAL KIT, PACKAGING SYSTEM, INSTRUCTION INSERT, AND ASSOCIATED METHODS

CROSS REFERENCE TO PRIOR APPLICATIONS

This application claims priority and benefit under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) from the following U.S. Provisional Applications: Ser. No. 61/352,140, filed Jun. 7, 2010; Ser. No. 61/352,155, filed Jun. 7, 2010; Ser. No. 61/428,944, filed Dec. 25, 2010; and Ser. No. 61/437,796, filed Jan. 31, 2011, each of which is incorporated herein by reference.

This application is a continuation in part of, and therefore claims priority to, U.S. patent application Ser. No. 12/495,148, filed Jun. 30, 2009, which is incorporated herein by reference. This application is a continuation in part of, and therefore claims priority to, U.S. patent application Ser. No. 12/647,515, filed Dec. 27, 2009, which is incorporated herein by reference.

This application is related to commonly assigned U.S. Pat. No. 7,624,869 to Primer, which is incorporated herein by reference. This application is related to commonly assigned U.S. patent application Ser. No. 12/004,796, filed Dec. 21, 2007, which is incorporated herein by reference.

BACKGROUND

Technical Field

Embodiments of the invention relate generally to a patient aid for ensuring proper dissemination of information relating to medical procedures, and in one or more embodiments, to a patient aid suitable for inclusion in a medical kit used for medical procedures that ensures the information is delivered to the patient undergoing the procedure.

Background Art

In a healthcare setting, patients need education regarding their ailment, treatment, or steps the patient needs to take after they have left the healthcare services. The healthcare provider does not always give the patient the proper information, or in some cases does not give any information at all. People undergoing medical procedures are thus frequently left without information regarding their condition, the treatment that has been administered, or how to care for themselves post-treatment. Without the proper post-treatment information, patients are at risk for infection, developing secondary medical issues, or compromising the procedure's effectiveness.

In some cases, the person is discharged from care while either still receiving treatment. For example, the person may require the use of home care devices to continue the treatment steps after discharge. Alternatively, the person may be discharged with a medical device when the treatment is not completed while under the immediate supervision of the caregiver. While educational materials may be available, it is frequently the case that the material fails to reach the intended target, i.e., the patient. When the necessary educational material does not reach the patient, they are left without critical information allowing the appropriate care to be administered either by themselves or others, which may lead to further illnesses or complications of a present condition.

There is a need for an improved information dissemination system and method.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The accompanying figures, where like reference numerals refer to identical or functionally similar elements throughout

2

the separate views and which together with the detailed description below are incorporated in and form part of the specification, serve to further illustrate various embodiments and to explain various principles and advantages all in accordance with the present invention.

FIG. 1 one embodiment of a tray for use in a medical procedure kit in accordance with one or more embodiments of the invention.

FIG. 2 illustrates one embodiment of a tray for use in a catheter procedure kit, or similar kit, configured in accordance with one or more embodiments of the invention.

FIG. 3 illustrates a generic medical procedure kit configured in accordance with embodiments of the invention.

FIG. 4 illustrates a medical procedure kit configured for a catheterization procedure in accordance with one or more illustrative embodiments of the invention.

FIG. 5 illustrates a generic patient aid configured in accordance with one or more embodiments of the invention.

FIGS. 6-9 illustrate various examples of patient aids configured in accordance with one or more embodiments of the invention.

FIGS. 10-14 illustrate various examples of methods for packaging medical procedure kits in accordance with one or more embodiments of the invention.

FIGS. 15-18 illustrate examples of health care services provider information suitable for inclusion with printed instructions in medical procedure kits configured in accordance with one or more embodiments of the invention.

FIGS. 19-21 illustrate examples of patient information suitable for inclusion with a patient aid configured in accordance with one or more embodiments of the invention.

FIGS. 22-23 illustrate examples labeling that can be included with medical procedure kits configured in accordance with one or more embodiments of the invention.

FIGS. 24-25 illustrate methods for making and using, respectively, medical procedure kits in accordance with one or more embodiments of the invention.

Skilled artisans will appreciate that elements in the figures are illustrated for simplicity and clarity and have not necessarily been drawn to scale. For example, the dimensions of some of the elements in the figures may be exaggerated relative to other elements to help to improve understanding of embodiments of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Embodiments of the invention are now described in detail. Referring to the drawings, like numbers indicate like parts throughout the views. As used in the description herein and throughout the claims, the following terms take the meanings explicitly associated herein, unless the context clearly dictates otherwise: the meaning of "a," "an," and "the" includes plural reference, the meaning of "in" includes "in" and "on." Relational terms such as first and second, top and bottom, and the like may be used solely to distinguish one entity or action from another entity or action without necessarily requiring or implying any actual such relationship or order between such entities or actions. Also, reference designators shown herein in parenthesis indicate components shown in a figure other than the one in discussion. For example, talking about a device (10) while discussing figure A would refer to an element, 10, shown in figure other than figure A.

Embodiments of the invention provide a patient aid that is suitable for inclusion with medical device kits. The patient aid provides necessary patient information corresponding to